

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

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Docket No. AB-996X

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Reading Blue Mountain and Northern Railroad Company  
Abandonment Exemption in Schuylkill County, PA

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**PETITION OF READING ANTHRACITE COMPANY TO TOLL 30-DAY  
PERIOD FOR SUBMITTING OFFER OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

Pursuant to 49 CFR § 1152.27(c)(2)(ii)(C), Reading Anthracite Company (RAC) hereby petitions the Board for an order tolling the 30-day period for its submission of an offer of financial assistance to Reading Blue Mountain and Northern Railroad Company under 49 CFR § 1152.27(c)(2) and extending such period to 20 days following the date on which the carrier provides the information required by 49 CFR § 1152.27(a) to RAC and the Board.

The subject notice of exemption was published in the Federal Register on August 21, 2006. On August 30, 2006 RAC provided the carrier with a formal expression of its intent to file an offer of subsidy assistance and request to provide it with the information required by section 1152.27(a), a copy of which was provided to the Board and is attached hereto. Although the carrier had not advised RAC that it required additional time to develop the requested information, upon RAC's inquiry on September 8, 2006 the carrier's counsel advised the undersigned that such information would not be available until some unspecified time after September 19 or 20, 2006 when the carrier's principal will have returned from travel out of the

country. RAC is unable to formulate its offer of financial assistance, currently required to be filed by September 20, until it has received and had the opportunity to analyze the requested information. RAC currently believes that 20 days will be sufficient for such analysis and preparation of its offer of financial assistance.

/s/ MICHAEL JOSEPH

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September 11, 2006



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August 30, 2006

**BY ELECTRONIC MAIL**

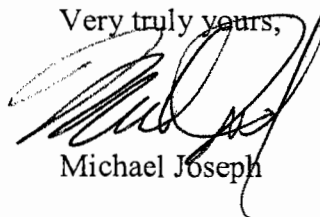
Eric M. Hocky, Esquire  
Gollatz, Griffin & Ewing, P.C.  
Four Penn Center, Suite 200  
1600 John F. Kennedy Blvd.  
Philadelphia, PA 19103-2808

Re: Reading Blue Mountain and Northern Railroad Company  
Abandonment Exemption, STB Docket No. AB-996X

Dear Mr. Hocky:

This will serve as formal notice to the carrier in the subject proceeding, pursuant to 49 CFR § 1152.27(c)(2)(i), of the intent of Reading Anthracite Company (RAC), 200 Mahantongo Street, Pottsville, PA 17901, to provide financial assistance in the form of subsidy. Please provide the undersigned with the carrier's estimate of the annual subsidy required to keep the subject line in operation and all other information required by 49 CFR § 1152.27(a). As RAC is required to file any offer of assistance no later than September 20, we trust that the requested information will be provided within sufficient time to be considered in formulating such offer.

Very truly yours,



Michael Joseph

Attorney for Reading Anthracite Company

cc: Secretary, Surface Transportation Board

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this 11th day of September, 2006, I caused a true and correct copy of the foregoing Petition of Reading Anthracite Company to Toll 30-Day Period for Submitting Offer of Financial Assistance, to be served by electronic mail and Federal Express, upon the person listed below:

Eric M. Hocky, Esquire  
GOLLATZ, GRIFFIN & EWING, P.C.  
Four Penn Center, Suite 200  
1600 John F. Kennedy Boulevard  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2808

  
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Sheila Smith